

Taking Programming for Young Vulnerable Children into the SDG Era



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children

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Overview

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Part I. Vulnerability: Understanding the situation of young children

Part II: Moment in History: Early Childhood Development in the SDGs

Part III. How: Measurement and Programming

Part IV. Challenges & Opportunity

Part I: Vulnerability: Understanding the situation of young children





HIV/AIDS and ECD

- HIV/AIDS – young children
 - Infected; affected; vulnerable
- Compromised Developmental outcomes:
 - Health: increase susceptibility to infections
 - Growth: higher rates of stunting
 - Delays: neuro developmental cognitive
 - Psychosocial well-being: emotional deprivation and long term effects



Need for Change in Perspective

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*Responding to the situation requires:
NOT ONLY...understanding the epidemic*

*BUT, also the social determinants and
interventions*

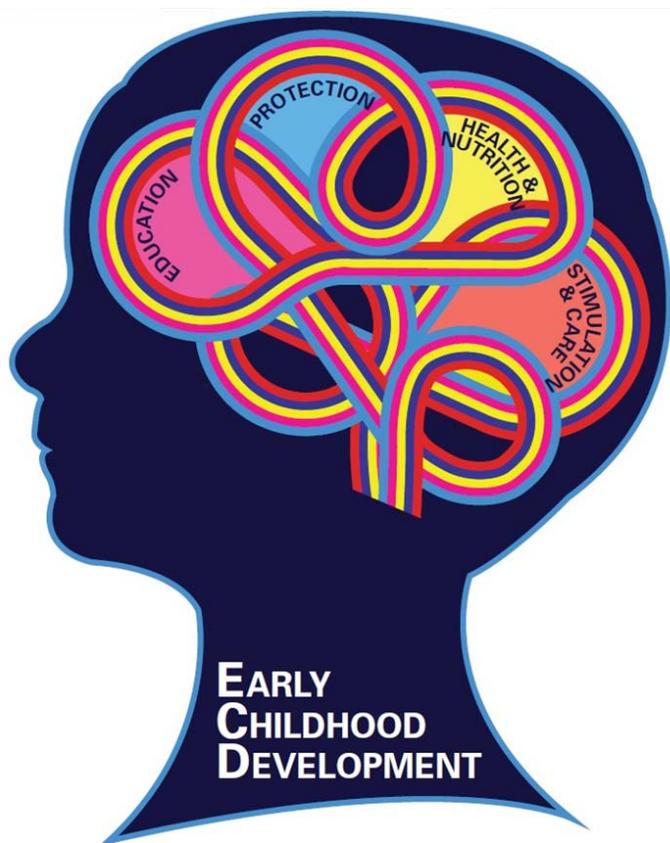
Linda Richter

(Impact of HIV/AIDS on the development of Children)

Part II: Early Childhood Development (ECD) in the SDGs



A Pivotal Moment in History for ECD



In the Words of the UN Secretary-General



“The Sustainable Development Goals recognize that early childhood development can help drive the transformation we hope to achieve over the next 15 years”

On 22 September, 2015 at the UNGA side event “Meeting of the Minds”

SDGs Are Meant to Work Together



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ECD as the Foundation for the SDGs





Goal 1 - Eradicate Poverty

ECD has been documented to be one of the most cost-effective strategies for poverty alleviation.

Early in life, when the brain has the maximum capacity to develop in the fullness of its complexity children learn the skills that will help them flourish in a 21st century economy.

2 ZERO HUNGER



Goal 2 – End Hunger and Improve Nutrition

Children who receive early stimulation with nutrition supplements have better outcomes than children who only receive nutrition supplements, thereby amplifying the impact of nutrition.

Furthermore, ECD interventions, buffer the negative effect of stress thereby improving absorption of nutritional intake.

3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



Goal 3 - Ensure Healthy Lives

ECD interventions, early in life set a trajectory for good life long health, lower cardiovascular, non-communicable disease and well-being.

With ECD not only do children survive, they thrive.



Goal 4 - Ensure Life Long Learning

Learning begins at birth and ECD interventions have proved to be the foundation for later learning, academic success and productivity.

A study on increasing pre-school enrolment in 73 countries found higher future wages of \$6 – \$17 per dollar invested, indicating potential long-term benefits ranging from \$11 to \$34 billion.



Goal 16 Promote Peaceful Societies

The neurobiology of early childhood has the potential to reduce violence and promote peace.

ECD interventions demonstrate lower rates of violence in the home and greater social cohesion in communities.



Clustering SDGs for Vulnerable Young Children

- Goal 1:Poverty
- Goal 2:Nutrition
- Goal 3: Life long Health
 - Target: By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases
- Goal 4: Life Long Learning
 - Target: ECD
- Goal 16: Peaceful Societies
 - Target: End Violence against Children

In the words of Shakira...ECD Goodwill Ambassador



“Without making significant investment in early childhood development, millions of kids will be born into the same cycle of poverty and lack of opportunity”

On 22 September, 2015 at the UNGA side event “Meeting of the Minds”

Part III: HOW: Measurement and Programming



Target 4.2

By 2030 ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education

- **Indicator 1: Percentage of children under 5 years of age who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being**

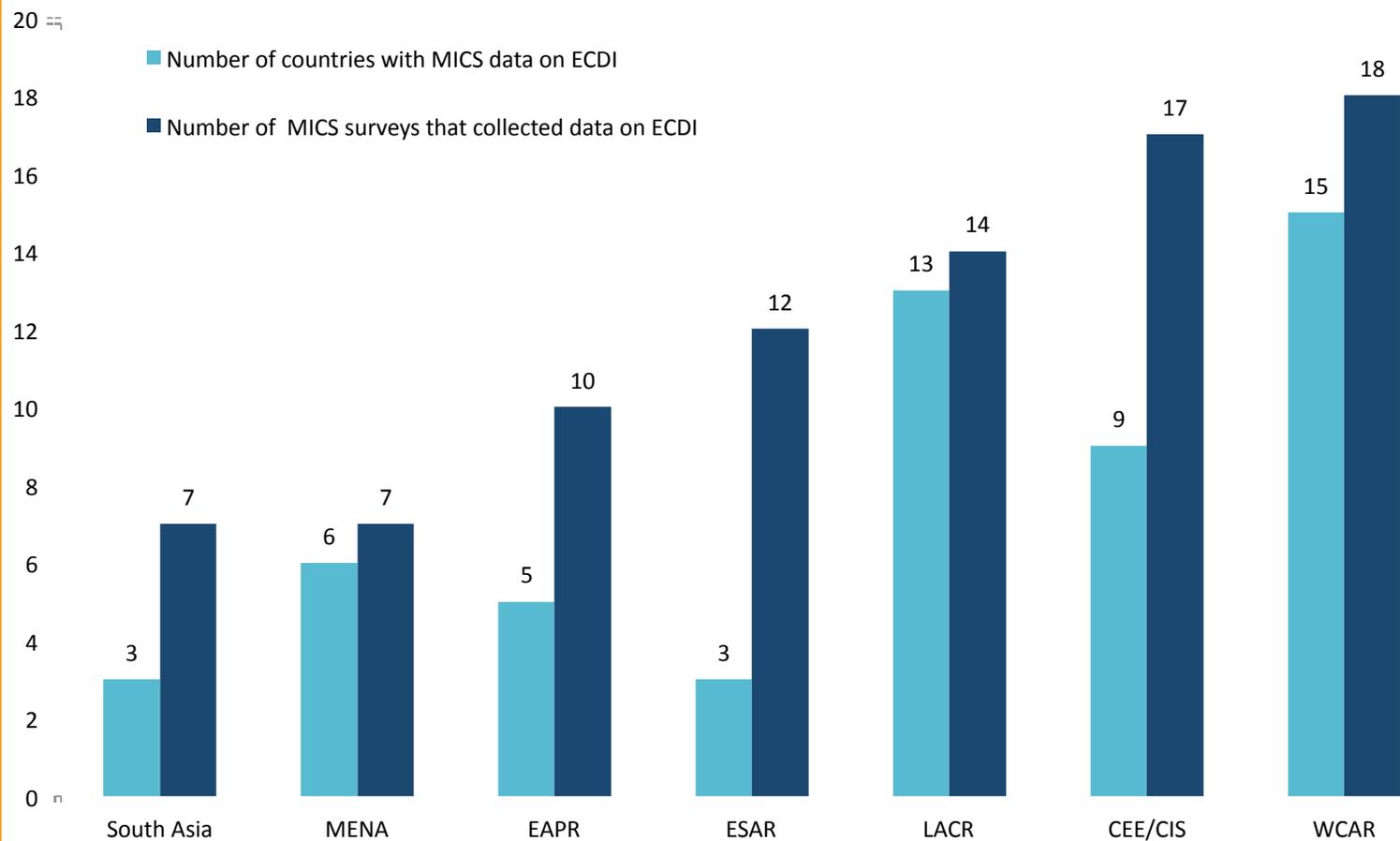
Target 4.2 - Indicator 4.2.1

- No more proxy indicators: possible to measure child outcomes at a population level
- Credible measures and available data
 - E.g., Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS/ UNICEF): Early Childhood Development Index (ECDI)
- These measures could be incorporated into existing data collection systems and can be collected periodically to become an integral part of national and global monitoring efforts

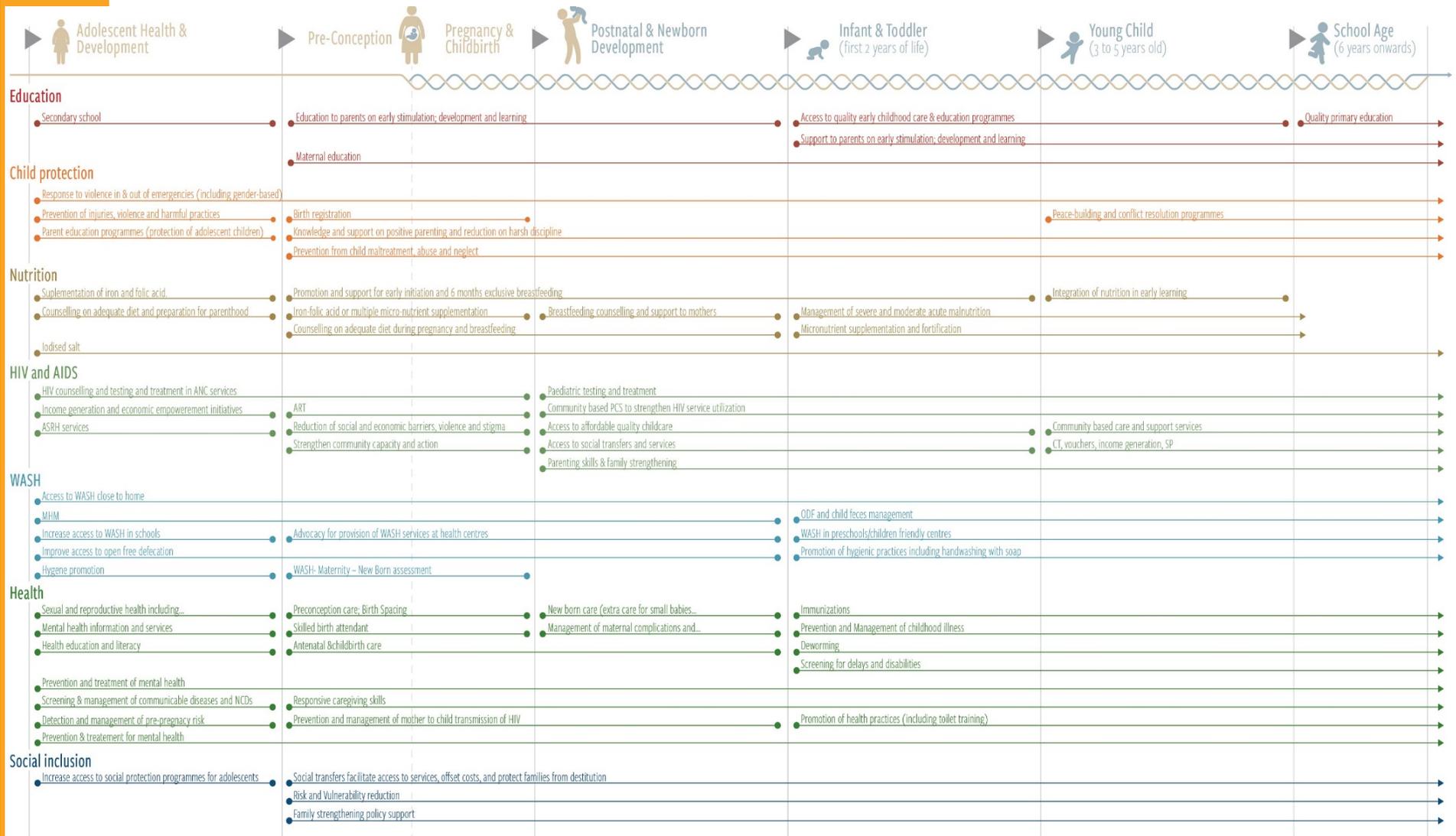
Development of the Early Childhood Development Index (ECDI)

- Recommend set of questions tested alongside the Early Development Instrument (Janus & Offord 2007), Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (Goodman 2001), others
 - Item reliability
- Factor analyses resulted in a long (48-item) and short (18-item) version covering six developmental domains: language, cognitive, physical, social, emotional and approaches to learning

Data Availability



Mapping of Sectoral Interventions



Part IV: Challenges & Opportunity



Challenges

- Complexity of vulnerability – identifying the effective entry points
- Finding the synergies between clinical platforms and community platforms for service delivery
- Implementing the multi-sectoral packages
- Generating political will and commitment

Launch of the Action Network for Early Childhood Development

Goal: Help catalyze efforts by bringing together governments and partners to achieve a set of concrete results for ECD.



14 April 2016
World Bank Spring meetings, Washington D.C.

Action Network for ECD: 5 Core Actions

- Implementation and scale up of key multi-sectorial interventions
- Build capacity of workforce to deliver quality services
- Strengthen national data and evidence on ECD
- Support national level sustainable finance
- Advocacy

FROM THE PRODUCERS OF **WAY BEYOND THE WEIGHT** AND **DROPS OF JOY**

THE BEGINNING OF **LIFE**

DIRECTED BY **ESTELA RENNER**

*"IF WE CHANGE
THE BEGINNING OF THE STORY,
WE CHANGE
THE WHOLE STORY"*



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